

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Dana Bowers, Associate Planner
DATE: April 22, 2025
SUBJECT: Food System Plan Update

1) Recommended Action:

No action is requested. This is an update with the consultant about the Community Food Assessment in the process of developing a food system plan for the City.

2) Background:

The City Council included the preparation of a City Food System Plan to address community concerns with food insecurity on the local level on the 2025 Long Range Planning Work Program.

City staff have been working with the City's consultant Rebeca Potasnik to prepare a Plan that focuses on supporting ways to access food more effectively and to consider the role of local and community-based agriculture activities, such as community gardens and local producers and processors to build a more resilient food system.

The Plan will focus on how to provide healthy food to the community, reduce food waste, and support local food processing by eliminating barriers, addressing gaps in the current system, producing solutions to implement at appropriate scale, and identifying how to maintain and update resource materials through jurisdictional and community partners.

The Planning Commission was originally briefed on the project on November 26, 2024, with a follow up on February 11, 2025, that provided an update of the community members interviewed thus far and plans for a survey to broaden outreach to more subject matter experts.

The work session on April 22, 2025, with the Planning Commission will provide a draft of the Community Food Assessment and ask Commissioners to provide input to develop goals and objectives for the plan. The General Government Committee will receive a similar briefing at their May 14, 2025, meeting.

3) Alternatives:

☐ None

4) Attachments:

- A. Staff Memorandum
- B. Draft Community Food Assessment